to only those Haj pilgrims who undertake haj pilgrimage through Central Haj Committee. There is no income criteria at present for selection.

(c) No subsidy is given to other Indian pilgrims for pilgrimage abroad.

Excess fare charged on Mumbai-Delhi Sector

1954. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Senior Citizens' are charged concessional fare on all Indian Airlines flights;

(b) if so, the reasons for Travel Agents charging excess fare on the plea of progressive fare from Mumbai to Delhi; and

(c) what is the concessional fare from Mumbai to Delhi by Indian Airlines and Travel Agents and the action propsoed to be taken to make the Travel Agents refund excess money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Except on the flights operated by Dornier Aircraft, the Senior Citizens' discount is available on all domestic services of Indian Airlines. The fare charged from passengers is the same irrespective of whether the ticket is issued by Indian Airlines directly or by its authorized Travel Agents.

(c) Various fare levels in INR (Including all taxes) between Delhi and Mumbai are as follows:

(in Rs.)

Type of Fare	Fare
Normal	6610
Promotional fare	5905
Sr. Citizen's Discount (on Promotional Fare) applicable only on DEL-BOM-DEL sector	3550
Apex Fare (valid upto 31st March, 2003)	3695

Since there is no difference in senior citizen's fare charged from Travel Agents and Indian Airlines, the question of refunding excess money does not arise.

Completion of privatisation of airports

1955. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the process of the proposed leasing of metro airports to private operators would not be complete by the scheduled date of March, 2003; and

(b) if so, at what stage is the proposal and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry had introduced AAI (Amendment) Bill 2000 in Lok Sabha in November, 2000 for making an enabling provision for leasing of airports. The said Bill was referred to Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. The Hon'ble Committee tabled its report on 21.11.2002 in the Parliament.

Operation of Qatar Airways

1956. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Qatar Airways has decided to start flights from Hyderabad;

(b) if so, by when this service will be started; and

(c) the other starting points from where Qatar Airways provides air services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) As per the Winter 2002-03